

A G E N D A

Clinical Advisory Panel



March 26, 2004
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM*
US Bank Building, 980 Ninth Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Sacramento, CA

I. Pain medication coverage for non- FDA approved use.

Objective: To follow up on information and comments from consumers and providers regarding plan decisions and IMR determinations with respect to the drug "Actiq," a medication approved by the FDA for breakthrough cancer pain.

Facilitator: Tom Gilevich, Counsel HMO Help Center. Thomas Naughton, IMR Project Manager, Center for Health Dispute Resolution (CHDR).

II. IMR Update - HMO Help Center

Objective: To provide a summary of the IMR (independent medical review) system and trends in applications and results in the three year history and evolution of the current state-run program; results of comparison studies from other states; past and current research efforts regarding the impact and function of external reviews; and quality assurance efforts.

Facilitator: Tom Gilevich, Counsel HMO Help Center.

III. Medical Policy Development In California Health Plans

Objective: To describe various models adopted by government and private payors in assessing new medical technologies and advances in medical treatments. Comparisons of how and when evidence-based practices are utilized and how coverage determinations are made in the absence of established policy and how these determinations are disseminated. The review will continue in subsequent meetings to consider current practices are applied in the evolution of specific medical policies concerning drugs, treatments or devices that may be considered "investigational" or "generally accepted" as covered and efficacious services, depending on the plans' analyses and perspectives.

Facilitator: Wade Aubry, M.D., Institute for Health Policy Studies, USCF.

IV. Scheduling and agenda items for next Clinical Advisory Panel meeting.

Facilitators: Tom Gilevich/Phillis Soresi

(*In limited occurrences or due to unforeseen circumstances, there may be a change to the order of agenda items. Public comment will be taken after each agenda item. The adjournment time of the meeting is approximate.)

Special accommodations for persons, such as sign language interpreter services, are available for persons to attend the meeting. Please request any such services at least seven days in advance of the meeting. This agenda is available on the Department of Managed Health Care's web site at www.hmoHELP.ca.gov. Please direct requests for accommodations to Phillis M. Soresi at (916) 324-9034 or psoresi@dmhc.ca.gov, Department of Managed Health Care, 980 9th Street, Suite 500, Sacramento, CA 95814.